

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

Page 6, 3rd paragraph:

On the other hand, in Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. ~~2000-6925~~ 2000-69252, the assignee of the present invention has proposed an image reading apparatus that is provided with an electric charge discharge drain and an electric charge discharge gate to discharge extra electric charges and change the number of pixels to be read as necessity requires so as to eliminate the need for reading out all the pixels to thereby improve the reading efficiency.